

Carmel, NY – Congressman John Hall, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, echoed the President's reminder that service members whose service was extended under stop loss orders in Iraq and Afghanistan must apply for retroactive pay by October 21, 2010. Troops eligible for retroactive pay will receive \$500 a month for each month their service was extended. The Defense Department estimates that while 145,400 troops are eligible, only 58,000 claims have been paid out so far.

"Our brave men and women have made tremendous sacrifices for our country and have earned this benefit" said Rep. Hall. "In 2009, we passed legislation to compensate our service members for tours that were involuntarily extended in Iraq and Afghanistan. With the deadline approaching, I urge all eligible troops to speak with a Veterans Service officer and submit their claims so that they can receive the retroactive pay they earned through their service. It is my responsibility to make sure that all eligible service members in the Hudson Valley get the benefits they have earned."

In 2009, Rep. Hall voted to pass HR 2346, the War Supplemental Appropriations Act, which established retroactive stop loss special pay (RSLSP). This allows troops whose service was involuntarily extended between September 11, 2001 and September 30, 2009 to file claims in order to receive retroactive pay if eligible. The deadline for submissions is October 21, 2010. The average benefit is \$3,800.

For more information or to submit a claim please visit www.defense.gov/stoploss , or visit Rep. Hall's [Veterans Service Website](#) for information on how to contact a veteran service officer in the Hudson Valley.